## REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed April 17, 2006. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 7-15.

The Office Action reports that claims 1-3, 7 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dragosh et al. (US 6366886) in view of Ladd et al. (US 6269336). Referring first to claim 1, the Office Action reports that Dragosh et al. teach a computer readable medium including instructions readable by a computer which, when implemented, cause the computer to handle information by performing steps comprising: receiving data over a wide area network indicative of input from a client device and an indication of grammar, and sending data indicative of recognition results for the data indicative of the input to a remote location on the wide area network, citing column 5, lines 29 – 60; column 4, line 30 to column 5, line 67; and column 6, lines 54 – 67. However, it is acknowledged that Dragosh et al. fail to specifically disclose the steps of receiving from the remote location data indicative of a prompt for the user to be used when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the input from the client; converting the data indicative of the prompt to speech data when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the input from the client; and sending the speech data to the client device over the wide area network.

The Office Action then reports that Ladd et al. teach the steps of receiving from the remote location data indicative of a prompt for the user to be used when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the input from the client; converting the data indicative of the prompt to speech data when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the

input from the client; and sending speech data to the client device over the wide area network, citing column 14, lines 43 - 67 together with columns 17, lines 61 - 67.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Ladd et al. does not teach or suggest the features reported by the Office Action. As discussed in Applicants' prior response, it is believed that Ladd et al. disclose in the most relevant embodiment illustrated in FIG. 3 a system 200 that allows users of communication devices indicated at 201, 202, 203 and 204 to access information stored on content providers 208 and 209 using a communication node 212 (col. 5, lines. 12-38). It is believed a summary of some aspects of the system 200 is provided at col. 11, lines. 25-63, wherein response to voice inputs from the user or DTMF tones, presumably using one of the connection devices 201-204, the voice browser 250 can navigate to a designation or content provider 208, 209. After the voice browser 250 is connected to an information source, the information source provides information that can include text content, mark-up language documents or pages, non-text content, dialogs, audio sample data, recognition grammars, etc. Based on the information collected, the voice browser 250 allows interactive voice applications. FIGS. 5A-5C illustrate a flow diagram for providing an interactive voice application. This procedure is discussed at col. 13, line 66 - col. 15, line 59. Voice browser 250 accesses and uses a voice response unit server 234 having a text-to-speech converter 252 and a speech recognizer 254.

Claim 1 recites a computer readable medium having instructions which when operated on a computer receive and process speech input. The steps recited are those performed by the speech server 204 in the architecture of Fig. 5 of the present application. In particular, claim 1 recites that data are received over a wide area network indicative of input from a

client device as well as an indication of a grammar for speech recognition. Further, data indicative of recognition results is sent to <u>a remote location on the wide area network</u>. The "remote location on the wide area network" is significant for it is used in the remaining steps recited in claim 1 (and contended to be taught by Ladd et al). In particular, claim 1 further recites the steps of:

> <u>receiving from the remote location data indicative of a prompt for the user to be used when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the input from the client</u>;
> converting the data indicative of the prompt to speech data when the recognition results are indicative of no recognition of the input from the client; and
> sending the speech data to the client device over the wide area network. (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully point out that data indicative of the prompt to be used when no recognition occurs is received from the remote location, the same "remote location" where recognition results are sent. The Office Action cites column 14, lines 43-67 together with column 17, lines 61-67 of Ladd et al. for teaching this step. However, the cited passage at column 14 merely provides standard prompts when recognition errors exist such as "I am having difficulty hearing you." (column 14, lines 54-56). Ladd et al. is at best silent as to where this prompt came from, but, and more importantly, Ladd et al. do not teach that the prompt comes from the remote location where recognition results are sent. At column 14, lines 57-60, Ladd et al. refer to a "re-prompt" and to block 406, but again, there is simply no teaching that the prompt for no recognition comes from the remote location where recognition results are sent. The description cited by the Office Action at column 17, lines 60-67 does not provide this feature either. Thus, for at least this reason, Applicants

respectfully submit the cited combination do not teach the invention of claim 1 and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants further traverse the statement that Dragosh et al. and Ladd et al. are from the same field of endeavor. Dragosh et al. describe a system of operating an automatic speech recognition service using client-server architecture. As summarized at column 2, lines 18 - 24, "… using client-server communications over a packet network, such as the Internet, the ASR server receives a grammar from the client, receives information representing speech from the client, performs speech recognition, and returns information based upon the recognize speech to the client."

However, Ladd et al. teach an interactive voice browser, which appears to allow a user to navigate to and obtain information from a content provider 208,209. In other words, the input received from the user in Ladd et al. causes different information to be returned from the content provider. This is quite different than the system of Dragosh et al. that provides recognition results from a server back to a client where the user's speech is provided. Therefore, for this reason also, Applicants respectfully submit the rejection should be withdrawn, and accordingly, claim 1 should be allowed.

Independent claim 11 includes features similar to that of claim 1. For the reasons provided above, Applicants respectfully believe that claim 11 is also allowable.

With this amendment applicant has added dependent claims 20 and 21, which depend from claims 11 and 1, respectively, and are believed separately patentable.

Applicants hereby request an extension of time to respond to the Office Action. A charge authorization for the extension of time fee is enclosed.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.
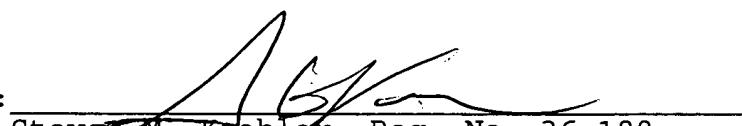
By:_____
Steven M. Koehler, Reg. No. 36,188
900 Second Avenue South, Suite 1400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402
Phone: (612) 334-3222  Fax: (612) 334-3312

SMK:dkm